

West Berks United Districts



INTERIM REPORT

for the year ending

31st December, 1947

by

Dr. G. CLARK, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M.

Dr. L. P. de COSTOBADIE, M.D., F.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Medical Officers of Health.

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G. W. SIMPSON & SON, LTD., NEWBURY

TO THE JOINT COMMITTEE OF THE WEST BERKS
UNITED DISTRICTS.

Mr. Chairman and Members,

I beg to submit the Annual Report for the year 1947. Though the war is over the request for economy in paper is unfortunately still so insistent that this report must continue to be little more than a resumé of health statistics.

In September Dr. Clark who has been your Medical Officer for the North Berks districts since 1940 resigned due to ill-health and it was with the greatest reluctance and sympathy that his resignation had to be accepted. During his period of sick leave from May to September I acted as Medical Officer to the North Berks districts, but after that date I have been assisted by Dr. Baird, whose services have been kindly lent by the County Medical Officer.

In the year 1947 the Ministry of Health required Councils to revert to the pre-war practice of providing form 572 which contains particulars under the Factories Act. Copies of these very detailed forms have been filled in and sent to the various Authorities specified by Circular 170/47 but restrictions still prevent inclusion of this information in the Annual Report.

The outstanding matters during the year of public health interest were the continued increase in the Birth rate, though this is probably the usual temporary post-war phenomenon, the decrease in the incidence of Diphtheria, the increase in cases of Food poisoning, and the very serious epidemic of Infantile Paralysis.

The outbreak of Infantile Paralysis was nation-wide and the most serious for many years. It occurred unusually early in the year and was prolonged throughout the summer and autumn. There were 22 cases, of which eight occurred in the Abingdon Rural District. There were two deaths, and half of those who recovered were permanently paralysed to a greater or less extent. Every facility for treatment and specialist consultation was available at Abingdon Isolation Hospital, but a special unit for treatment and remedial after-care was instituted at the Oxford Orthopaedic Hospital. The decrease in Diphtheria continued, and the scheme by which General Practitioners are now inoculating for the County Medical Officer has resulted in an increase in immunisation in the remoter rural areas where it has been difficult hitherto to

organise clinics. It is interesting in this connection to be able to record that the figure for deaths from Diphtheria in England and Wales for 1947 was 245 compared with the average of 2,800 annually in the 10 years period 1931—1940, and the case rate 1/5th.

The increase in communal kitchens for factories, schools, hostels, and the like has allowed food poisoning bacteria to be spread far more widely by infected food-handlers. Several scores of cases of food poisoning occurred in our districts fortunately with only one fatal result. Meticulous attention to personal hygiene and cleanliness of premises has been urged on all caterers and food handlers by inspections, and by written instructions and publicity.

The most disturbing aspect however of the public health outlook is the continued housing shortage, resulting in unprecedented overcrowding. Many houses have now gone beyond repair as a result of years of shortage of manpower and material to repair them. The first real improvement in health statistics will not necessarily result from a new health service but when every family is provided with a decent house.

Your obedient servant,

L. P. de COSTOBADIE,

Medical Officer of Health.

WEST BERKS UNITED SANITARY DISTRICTS
JOINT COMMITTEE — YEAR 1948-49.

List of Members.

Boroughs.

- ABINGDON. Mrs. A. L. Challenor, "Waysmeet", Faringdon Road, Abingdon.
- NEWBURY. Alderman C. W. Burns, "Barrie", 10, Buckingham Road, Newbury.
Alderman Miss E. L. Kimber, 64, Bartholomew Street, Newbury.
- WALLINGFORD. M. L. Whiteley, Esq., "Crossways", Wantage Road, Wallingford.

Urban District.

- WANTAGE. A. T. Evans, Esq., The Manor Farm, Charlton, Nr. Wantage.

Rural Districts.

- ABINGDON. Lt.-Col. S. T. Austin, O.B.E., The White House, Shippon, Nr. Abingdon.
W. Evans, Esq., 1, High Street, Drayton, Nr. Abingdon.
- BRADFIELD. E. Bootle-Wilbraham, Esq., Brackenhurst, Bucklebury Common, Nr. Reading.
Mrs. M. P. Showers, Hatch Farm, Padworth, Nr. Reading.
H. L. Simmons, Esq., "Broadfield", Yattendon, Bradfield.
- FARINGDON. F. Carter, Esq., Coxwell Street, Faringdon.
The Rev. J. W. Cole, 35, Norham Road, Oxford.
- HUNGERFORD. General D. M. W. Beak, V.C., D.S.O., M.C., East Garston, Newbury.
- NEWBURY. A. S. B. Tull, Esq., J.P., Round Oak, Greenham, Newbury.
F. J. Coxhead, Esq., 173, Station Road, Thatcham, Nr. Newbury.
- WALLINGFORD. A. J. Clements, Esq., The Baldons, Aston Tirrold, Nr. Didcot.
- WANTAGE. J. H. Anderson, Esq., Canal Farm, East Challow, Nr. Wantage.
S. W. Brown, Esq., Princes Farm, Peasemore, Newbury.

Clerk to the Joint Committee.

G. V. Spooner, Esq., Council Offices, 60, Bath Street, Abingdon.

WEST BERKS UNITED DISTRICTS.

NORTHERN AREA.

Medical Officer of Health:

Dr. Clark,

Public Health Office, 59, Stert Street, Abingdon.

Telephone: Abingdon 598.

Districts.	Sanitary Inspectors.
Abingdon Borough ...	Gifford Saffin, Council Offices, The Abbey House, Abingdon. (Telephone 320).
Abingdon Rural ...	T. E. Upton, 60, Bath Street, Abingdon. (Telephone 361).
Faringdon Rural ...	H. F. O'Connor, London Street, Faringdon. (Telephone 3121).
Wallingford Borough	C. J. Flooks, Municipal Buildings, Wallingford. (Telephone 2184 and 2185).
Wallingford Rural ...	C. J. Gayfer, The Old Rectory, Didcot. (Telephone 3261).
Wantage Urban ...	C. R. Driver, Town Hall, Wantage. (Telephone 240).
Wantage Rural ...	E. H. Rosser, Council Offices, Belmont, Wantage. (Telephone 211).

SOUTHERN AREA.

Medical Officer of Health:

Dr. L. P. de Costobadie, Public Health Office, Greenham House, Newbury.

Telephone: Newbury 1144.

Districts.	Sanitary Inspectors.
Bradfield Rural ...	T. H. Windle, Town Hall Chambers, Blagrove Street, Reading. (Telephone 2293).
Hungerford Rural ...	F. H. Obrey, 128, High Street, Hungerford. (Telephone 29).
Newbury Borough ...	J. Hague, Weighbridge House, Newbury. (Telephone 446).
Newbury Rural ...	E. G. Hampshire, Phoenix House, Bartholomew Street, Newbury. (Telephone 174).

WEST BERKS UNITED DISTRICTS.

THE WEST BERKS UNITED DISTRICTS consist of the Boroughs of Abingdon, Newbury and Wallingford; the Urban District of Wantage; and the Rural Districts of Abingdon, Bradfield, Faringdon, Hungerford, Newbury, Wallingford and Wantage.

AREA AND POPULATION.

The following table shows the area of each district, with estimated population at the middle of 1947.

District	Area in Acres (Land and Inland Water)	Estimated Population	Persons per Acre
Abingdon Borough ...	1,713	10,570	6·1
Newbury Borough ...	2,612	17,500	6·6
Wallingford Borough	760	3,583	4·7
Wantage Urban ...	2,797	5,072	1·8
Abingdon Rural ...	41,225	20,070	·4
Bradfield Rural ...	53,008	18,680	·3
Faringdon Rural ...	55,726	10,900	·1
Hungerford Rural ...	44,817	9,060	·2
Newbury Rural ...	41,660	13,450	·3
Wallingford Rural ...	21,772	13,870	·6
Wantage Rural ...	74,179	12,360	·1
Totals ...	340,269	135,115	0·39

BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

The following table gives the Birth and Death Rate per 1,000 population and the Infant Mortality and Illegitimate births per 1,000 live births.

District	Birthrate per 1,000 of the estimated population at middle of 1947	Death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population at middle of 1947	Deaths of Infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births	Illegitimate birth rate per 1,000 live births
Abingdon Boro. ...	19.1	9.8	29.7	34.6
Newbury „ ...	19.0	12.6	18.1	33.1
Wallingford „ ...	16.7	12.5	16.7	—
Wantage Urban ...	15.8	14.6	25.0	37.5
Abingdon Rural ...	24.0	9.6	35.2	56.2
Bradfield „ ...	18.1	10.7	38.3	73.8
Faringdon „ ...	22.7	10.9	32.3	40.5
Hungerford „ ...	18.0	14.0	42.9	73.6
Newbury „ ...	18.7	11.4	35.7	51.6
Wallingford „ ...	24.2	9.6	23.8	44.6
Wantage „ ...	22.4	11.7	39.7	50.5
United Districts ...	20.5	11.2	31.8	49.5
England and Wales	20.5	12.0	41.	—

In addition to the births accounted for above there were 61 still births.

For comparison, the Illegitimate birth rate per 1,000 live births in England and Wales in the 20 years before the war was 58.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Only 1 death was registered as having resulted from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and parturition.

DEATHS FROM ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

Deaths from the principal Zymotic diseases totalled 10. One was due to Diphtheria, two to Cerebral Spinal Fever, five to Whooping Cough and two to Poliomyelitis.

PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following table gives the number of cases of infectious disease notified in each district during 1947.

Disease.	District.											
	Abingdon Borough	Newbury Borough	Wallingford Borough	Wantage Urban	Abingdon Rural	Bradfield Rural	Faringdon Rural	Hungerford Rural	Newbury Rural	Wallingford Rural	Wantage Rural	Total: West Berks United Districts
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	4
Scarlet Fever	10	7	5	...	29	8	10	5	...	15	9	98
Erysipelas	7	2	...	...	7	2	2	4	...	1	1	26
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	3	..	1	...	1	1	1	...	2	4	13
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	3	...	...	8	...	2	...	2	...	3	19
Acute Polioencephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	3
Ophthalmia												
Neonatorum	..	1	..	...	2	...	1	...	...	2	1	7
Acute Encephalitis												
Lethargica	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	..	1	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	..	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	...	2	5
Malaria (Relapse)	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Dysentery	13	...	1	...	8	...	..	3	...	416	...	441
Acute Primary												
Pneumonia	6	2	1	1	15	39	2	5	2	12	1	86
Measles	24	24	5	5	166	346	81	25	78	247	78	1079
Whooping Cough	89	23	13	4	198	110	10	11	28	81	19	586
Respiratory												
Tuberculosis	24	9	1	4	24	30	10	11	25	14	12	164
Other Forms of												
Tuberculosis	1	2	...	3	4	5	6	7	7	4	4	43

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Number of children immunised against Diphtheria.

	1945		1946		1947	
	Under 5	5 to 15	Under 5	5 to 15	Under 5	5 to 15
Abingdon Boro. ...	151	38	198	44	113	9
Newbury ,, ...	174	116	229	60	301	67
Wallingford ,, ...	57	3	44	29	46	6
Wantage Urban ...	51	3	33	1	38	2
Abingdon Rural ...	174	26	137	24	403	8
Bradfield ,, ...	101	5	82	17	257	21
Faringdon ,, ...	172	25	74	16	193	4
Hungerford ,, ...	125	6	67	11	134	1
Newbury ,, ...	149	1	119	16	178	10
Wallingford ,, ...	183	3	123	62	170	6
Wantage ,, ...	91	--	121	7	158	2
Percentage Immunised at end of year	67.2	93.7	65.0	95.0	64.0	96.0

The percentages for 1947 have been calculated after making provision for the removal of pre-school children to the school age group and the fact that many of those immunised in the school group have now passed out of the 5—15 age group.

TUBERCULOSIS (New Cases).

Year	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Totals
1942	131	61	192
1943	127	41	168
1944	166	50	216
1945	145	55	200
1946	144	48	192
1947	164	43	207

SCABIES.

Only a small number of cases of Scabies have been brought to official notice as most are treated by Medical Practitioners.

The arrangements for treatment remains unchanged.

VENEREAL DISEASE.

Berkshire County Council report that the number of cases seen for the first time at special clinics serving the area shewed a considerable decrease on the previous year.

The following table gives times and places of treatment of Venereal Disease:

ROYAL BERKSHIRE HOSPITAL, READING.

Male: Wednesday, 2 p.m.; Saturday, 4 p.m.

Female: Wednesday, 4 p.m.; Thursday, 2 p.m.
Saturday, 2 p.m.

RADCLIFFE INFIRMARY, OXFORD.

Male: Wednesday, 6 p.m.; Saturday, 3 p.m.

Female: Monday, 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 3 p.m.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL, SWINDON.

Male: Wednesday, 7 to 8.30 p.m.; Friday, 6 to 7.30 p.m.

Female: Monday, 5 to 6.30 p.m.; Friday, 2 to 3.30 p.m.

ABINGDON BOROUGH.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER.

Apart from water mains on the Ministry of Supply Estate (140 houses) and the Council's Housing Estate (100 houses) no important extensions to the mains in the Borough were carried out.

The Northern end of the Borough continued to be supplied with water taken from the Oxford City Waterworks. During the summer months the Lashford Lane and Wootton supplies became reduced in volume and a supplementary supply for the remainder of the town was also taken from Oxford City.

Chemical analyses of water from both the Lashford Lane and Wootton supplies afforded no evidence of pollution or contamination and indicated suitability for drinking and all domestic purposes.

Monthly samples of water were taken from the mains for bacteriological analysis and, apart from the contamination in March when the reservoir became flooded with surface water, all fell into Class I. of the Ministry of Health's grading.

On March 13th, 1947, the New Reservoir at Wootton became contaminated with flood water and was immediately taken out of service. Water samples taken from the mains showed in the case of the supply from the Old Reservoir at Wootton 25 B.Coli per 100 ml. of water, and at least 180 B. Coli per 100 ml. in the supply from the Oxford City Waterworks. The Chlorine dosage to the old reservoir was immediately increased and the Oxford City Waterworks were informed of the contamination of their supply. Loudspeaker vans were used to advise the public to boil water before use. Samples taken on March 15th showed an absence of B. Coli in water from the Old Reservoir, and on March 17th, a satisfactory sample was obtained from the Oxford supply. The chlorine dosage to the Old Reservoir was gradually decreased, close watch being kept on the supply by frequent sampling, until the chlorine dosage was back to normal. In the meantime the New Reservoir was pumped dry, sterilized with Chlorox solution and refilled. This reservoir was put back into service on April 6th, 1947.

SEWAGE.

The only extension to the public sewers was to the Council Housing Estate, Wootton Road.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

There are 63 Factories and Workshops in the Borough.

During the year 53 inspections were made under the above Acts and 3 defects were found and remedied.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases.
NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)
DURING THE YEAR.

Disease	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	10	10	—
Erysipelas	7	3	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	1	—
Acute Polioencephalitis	—	—	—
Dysentery	13	1	—
Acute Pneumonia	6	—	—
Measles	24	1	—
Whooping Cough	89	3	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—
Malaria (Relapse)	—	—	—

The incidence of Scarlet Fever was about the same as during 1946. Three of the cases occurred among boarders at St. Helens School.

The only case of Poliomyelitis in the Borough was mild and the patient, an adult female, recovered completely.

With the exception of two cases, the sources of which were not traced, all the Dysentery occurred among Police personnel and their families. The outbreak was traced to dried egg powder used in a meal which was consumed by all the cases at a Cafe in Newbury.

Whooping Cough and Measles incidence was rather higher than for the previous year.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Resp.		Non-Resp.		Resp.		Non-Resp.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 — 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 — 5	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5 — 10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 — 15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 — 20	1	4	—	—	1	—	—	—
20 — 25	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 — 35	3	3	—	—	—	1	—	—
35 — 45	2	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
45 — 55	4	2	—	—	2	2	—	—
55 — 65	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 & upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	13	11	1	—	6	3	—	—

ABINGDON RURAL DISTRICT.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER.

Three samples of water have been taken from the Oxford City Water Undertaking and 4 samples from the Local Authority's own scheme at Sutton Courtenay. All samples were satisfactory. The water from Oxford City has no marked plumbo-solvent action but that from the Sutton Courtenay bore has got a plumbo-solvent action and the mains are therefore of cast iron or asbestos, whilst the services are of galvanised iron. Both supplies are chlorinated and the quality and quantity of water have been satisfactory.

The Sutton Courtenay bore is at present working to capacity and the Council have under review schemes to allow for an increase of water consumption in the parishes served by this supply.

In the area supplied by Oxford City there have been 127 new connections to premises during the year, making a total of 3,467 premises connected to the main supply.

The following information is required by Paragraph 4, Section V. of Ministry of Health Circular 170/47:

Parish.	Total No. of Dwellinghouses	No. of Dwellinghouses supplied with main water inside	No. of Dwellinghouses supplied by stand-pipes
Appleton	187	76	—
Besselsleigh	19	11	—
Cumnor	652	484	—
Draycott Moor	51	15	—
Frilford	46	25	—
Fyfield	69	43	—
Garford	33	10	—
Kennington	421	387	—
Kingston Bagpuize	56	30	—
Marcham	201	70	—
North Hinksey	855	828	—
Radley	219	132	—
St. Helen Without	288	238	—
South Hinksey	76	67	—
Sunningwell	223	212	—
Tubney	46	11	—
Wootton	502	434	—

All the above parishes are supplied with water from mains within the area of the Oxford Corporation Waterworks Undertaking. There are no stand-pipes in these parishes.

Drayton	390	236	136
Milton	180	117	56
Steventon	290	127	157
Sutton Courtenay	406	279	120

These parishes are supplied by the Local Authorities' own scheme. There are approximately 62 stand-pipes in these parishes.

Appleford	75	Nil.	Nil.
Lyford	33	Nil.	Nil.

There is at present no supply to these two parishes.

SEWERAGE.

Main drainage of the parishes of Cumnor (part), North and South Hinksey, and Kennington has functioned satisfactorily throughout the year, and the effluent has always satisfied the requirements of the Thames Conservancy Board.

Two small sewage disposal schemes for new and existing Council Houses at Bayworth and Sutton Courtenay were completed during the year.

The proposed main drainage schemes in the following areas continue to receive consideration by the Council:—

Whitecross, Wootton, Sunningwell, Lashford Lane, Cumnor, Appleton, Drayton, Milton, Steventon, Sutton Courtenay and Radley.

SCAVENGING.

A weekly collection is made throughout the district.

HOUSING.

TEMPORARY DWELLINGS.—The conversion of an ex-Army hutted camp at Steventon was completed during the year, accommodation being provided for 71 families at this camp.

PERMANENT HOUSING.—During the year 25 houses were erected by private enterprise, and 9 were in the course of construction at the end of the year. 55 Council Houses were completed and 78 in the course of erection at the end of the year.

HOUSING AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

Owing to the continuation of restrictions on building work imposed by building licences, only the most urgent repairs and alterations have been carried out and it has not been possible to proceed with routine housing inspections for the purpose of bringing the working class houses up to the standards laid down in the Public Health and Housing Acts. Nevertheless owners showed marked willingness to co-operate in the betterment of housing conditions.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS ACTS.

There are 37 Factories and Workshops in the District. Eight inspections were made under the above Act and 5 defects found, 4 of which were remedied.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

**NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)
DURING THE YEAR.**

Disease	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	29	25	—
Erysipelas	7	6	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	1	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	8	8	—
Acute Polioencephalitis	—	—	—
Dysentery	8	—	—
Acute Pneumonia	15	—	—
Measles	166	—	—
Whooping Cough	198	3	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	2	—
Malaria (Relapse)	—	—	—

The incidence of Scarlet Fever was about the same as for 1946 but Measles and Whooping Cough increased.

Seven of the 8 Dysentery cases occurred among Police personnel and their families—the source of infection was dried egg powder used in a meal which all the patients consumed at a Cafe in Newbury.

The 8 cases of Poliomyelitis occurred in widely separated areas. Of these 8, 3 are known to have had residual paralysis. Most of these cases had either direct or indirect contact with Oxford and one can only surmise that they became infected through being in contact with undiscovered carriers from, or in, Oxford.

Military Cases: Scarlet Fever, 1; Poliomyelitis, 1; Measles, 3; Pneumonia, 2.

The two cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum were treated at home and recovered.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age periods			NEW CASES				DEATHS			
			Resp.		Non-Resp.		Resp.		Non-Resp.	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	5	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	—	15	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
15	—	20	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
20	—	25	3	4	—	—	—	1	—	—
25	—	35	2	3	—	1	—	—	—	—
35	—	45	3	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
45	—	55	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
55	—	65	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
65 & upwards			1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals			14	10	1	3	1	2	1	—

BRADFIELD RURAL DISTRICT.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER.

Piped supplies are chlorinated and tests proved satisfactory. A somewhat serious shortage of water was experienced in the Padworth Common area. The Council have decided to instruct the Mid Wessex Company to extend the main which will supply approximately 40 houses. Main extensions to 123 houses were carried out during the year.

HOUSING.

68 houses were erected during the year. The Blossom Square Estate at Theale, comprising 50 houses and 48 flats, was taken over by the Council from the Ministry of Supply. The Council have by now taken over a total of 140 huts.

SEWERAGE.

The comprehensive schemes for several parishes which had been prepared were not approved by the Ministry, but small modified schemes have been sanctioned in principle.

DISINFESTATION.

Nine cases of disinfestation by bugs were dealt with.

MILK.

All T.B. tests were negative, and tests for keeping qualities were generally satisfactory.

THAMES AND KENNET FLOODING.

Very serious flooding occurred in March. Many families from Purley Park River Estate and the Theale hutted camp were affected, halls and other buildings were taken for the purpose.

FOOD POISONING.

Nineteen cases of more or less severe food poisoning occurred at a hotel at Streatley. The particular bacteria causing the condition produce severe reactions within a few hours, and in this outbreak were demonstrated in tinned sausages from abroad. It is important that such food should be very thoroughly cooked.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There were fortunately no cases of Infantile Paralysis. The first case of Anthrax to occur in the district for 25 years was diagnosed at Stanford Dingley. Prompt action was taken by the police in the disposal of the carcass, and prophylactic injections were given to two men who were considered to have risked infection when doing an examination.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)
DURING THE YEAR.

Disease			Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria	....	....	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	....	....	8	3	—
Erysipelas	....	....	2	—	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)			—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	....		I	I	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	....		—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	....		—	—	—
Acute Polioencephalitis	....		—	—	—
Dysentery	....	....	—	—	—
Acute Pneumonia	....		39	—	9
Measles	....	....	346	I	—
Whooping Cough	....		II0	I	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	....		—	—	—
Malaria (Relapse)	....		—	—	—

The case of Puenperal Pyrexia recovered.

Military cases: Measles, 8.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age periods			NEW CASES				DEATHS			
			Resp.		Non-Resp.		Resp.		Non-Resp.	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	5	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	20	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
20	—	25	2	4	—	1	—	—	—	—
25	—	35	1	3	—	1	—	1	—	—
35	—	45	5	3	—	—	3	2	—	—
45	—	55	1	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
55	—	65	3	2	1	—	1	—	—	—
65 & upwards			1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals			15	15	1	4	4	4	0	0

FARINGDON RURAL DISTRICT.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER.

QUALITY. Piped supplies have mostly been of fairly good quality with 2 exceptions, namely Buscot Estate Supply and the Council supply to Uffington and Baulking. The latter supply was considered to be dangerous and the Council decided to supply the villages from their main sources. This work is already in hand.

QUANTITY. A large area of the district relies on private wells which are invariably shallow surface wells and are inclined to run dry during drought. The quality as well as quantity is poor.

During the year no serious shortage was experienced in main supplies.

The main water supplies in the district are hard but no plumbo-solvent action is experienced. When a well is proved to be contaminated "Boiling Notices" are placed at the well head.

Details of dwellings receiving water from piped supplies:—

Parish.	No.	Houses.		No.	Approx. Population.	
		Direct supply	Stand-pipe		Direct supply	Stand-pipe
Ashbury (1942) ...	154	50	62	523	170	210
Baulking (1948) ...	38	10	27	127	35	85
Bourton (1943) ...	74	21	48	400	105	270
Buckland ...	171	—	—	508	—	—
Buscot ...	90	10	50	271	30	150
Charney Bassett ...	51	—	—	165	—	—
Coleshill ...	75	—	—	241	—	—
Compton						
Beauchamp (1947)	30	—	—	105	—	—
Coxwell Gt. (1948/49)...	78	—	—	226	—	—
Coxwell Little (1939) ...	67	9	24	248	35	94
Eaton Hastings ...	33	9	14	129	35	55
Faringdon (1939) ...	816	520	90	3200	2100	350
Fernham (1948) ...	53	—	—	155	—	—
Hatford ...	25	—	—	80	—	—
Hinton Waldrist ...	73	—	—	275	—	—
Kingston Lisle ...	64	17	33	223	59	115
Longcot (1947) ...	87	11	—	312	38	—
Longworth ...	153	—	—	531	—	—
Pusey ...	29	—	—	115	—	—
Shellingford ...	48	6	28	143	20	80
Shrivenham (1947) ...	259	66	51	916	241	178
Stanford in the Vale ...	267	—	—	809	—	—
Uffington (1948) ...	146	66	66	452	200	200
Watchfield (1947) ...	365	288	—	687	570	—
Woolstone ...	41	5	20	130	16	65
	3287	1088	513	10970	3654	1852

The dates in brackets are the year that the mains were laid.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

No new or additional works have been carried out during 1947. Faringdon and Ashbury have sewage works but there is not sufficient effluent to make the latter work. Several other villages are sewered in that "they possess drains which carry sewage", but these are inefficient and dangerous.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

There are 57 of the above premises in the district.

During the year 70 inspections of premises were made under the Factories and Workshops Acts and 13 defects discovered.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

**NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)
DURING THE YEAR.**

Disease	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	10	4	—
Erysipelas	2	2	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	2	2	—
Acute Polioencephalitis	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—
Acute Pneumonia	2	—	—
Measles	81	1	—
Whooping Cough	10	1	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—
Malaria (Relapse)	—	—	—

The incidence of Scarlet Fever was slightly lower than for 1946 but notifications of Measles and Whooping Cough increased as compared with last year.

There was no apparent connection between the two cases of Poliomyelitis—neither of which proved fatal.

Military cases: Measles, 2.

The case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum was treated at home and completely recovered.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Resp.		Non-Resp.		Resp.		Non-Resp.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 — 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 — 5	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
5 — 10	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—
10 — 15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 — 20	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 — 25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 — 35	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
35 — 45	3	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
45 — 55	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 — 65	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & upwards	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Totals	7	3	1	5	2	1	0	0

HUNGERFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER.

The water supply, which comes from the Hungerford Company and the Lambourn Waterworks, continued satisfactory in supply and quality. Several unsatisfactory samples were taken from private supplies, in one case the dwelling has been put on the public mains. The number of dwelling houses and population supplied direct, and by standpipes, remains much the same as in previous years.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Complaints were made by the Thames Conservancy of the effluent from the Hungerford Sewage Works. The final treatment tank had not been de-sludged for many years and in order to effect this considerable expense was incurred, but there have been no further complaints. These works are 40 years old, and during the year much machinery had to be replaced. Influx of surface water into sewers causes overloading, and this together with the age of the works and growth of Hungerford makes reconstruction increasingly necessary.

MILK.

A number of improvements to premises have been effected and some new cowsheds and milking parlours have been erected. 26 samples of milk were taken, 12 taken for T.B. were negative and the remainder, with 2 exceptions, were satisfactory.

FACTORIES.

There are 11 factories with mechanical power, and 38 other premises within the meaning of the Act. 70 inspections were made.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)
DURING THE YEAR.

Disease			Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria	....	....	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	....	....	5	2	—
Erysipelas	....	....	4	—	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)			—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	....		1	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	....		2	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	....		—	—	—
Acute Polioencephalitis	....		—	—	—
Dysentery	....	....	3	—	—
Acute Pneumonia	....		5	—	2
Measles	....	....	25	—	—
Whooping Cough	....		11	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	....		—	—	—
Malaria (Relapse)	....		—	—	—

The death from Cerebro-Spinal Fever was in a baby, aged 8 months.

Military cases: Nil.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age periods			NEW CASES				DEATHS			
			Resp.		Non-Resp.		Resp.		Non-Resp.	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	10	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
10	—	15	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
15	—	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	—	25	2	3	1	1	1	—	—	1
25	—	35	—	1	1	1	—	1	—	—
35	—	45	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45	—	55	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
55	—	65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & upwards			—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals			5	6	2	5	1	1	0	1

NEWBURY BOROUGH.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER.

The water undertaking of the Corporation is the only source of supply in the Borough; all water is chlorinated and supplies were adequate for all purposes both as regards quality and quantity. The number of houses and population served by piped supplies, including standpipes, is set out below, together with the number of wells.

	Houses.	Population.
Piped supplies direct to houses	4,720	17,199
Standpipes	124	281
Wells	6	20

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

No major extensions or alterations were carried out.

MILK.

The number of cowkeepers on the register was 6. 26 tests for tuberculosis were done on the above milk supplies, and on that entering the Borough: all were satisfactory.

• INFESTATION.

One Council house and 3 privately owned houses were found to be infested with bugs; all were disinfested satisfactorily with Zaldecide/D.D.T.

Inspections were formerly made of the belongings of families taking up the tenancies of Council houses to ensure that they were free from vermin. Since the transfer of the duties of Housing Manager from the Sanitary Inspector's office, which took place during the year, this practice has lapsed. However, if there should be reasonable grounds for believing that previous circumstances will make infection possible inspections will be made.

HOUSING.

54 houses were built by the Local Authority and 23 by private persons. Of 6 dwelling houses found to be so injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 3 were closed as a result of undertakings by the owners not to relet.

Standards of Fitness: Ministry of Health Circular 61/47.

This circular accompanied a copy of a report on Standards of Fitness prepared by a Sub-Committee of the Central Housing Advisory Committee.

The recommendations are in advance of any previously put forward and if adopted will result in a standard on which judgment of unfitness can be based with much more security than in the past.

This question is closely bound up with the provision of a separate house for each family, and until that state is reached considerable difficulty with respect to the older type of house, some of which in more normal times would have been dealt with by the local authority, must continue. Demolitions, in general, are not practicable, and the course adopted to accept undertakings not to re-let seems to be the best.

Works of repair still remain difficult due to the restrictions indirectly and directly imposed in respect of materials required for the purpose.

One feature, however, is worthy of comment, i.e., very few nuisances discovered remained outstanding at the end of the year.

To take as a standard of unfitness for habitation the 5th class in the generally adopted Hobhouse Scheme of Classification would give a large figure as sub-standard, possibly between 500 and 600; but even taking as the worst type the dwellings (mostly 18th century) in the dark and airless courts and alley-ways of this old town, it is estimated that approximately 100 should be closed forthwith as unfit for habitation by any standards.

KENNET FLOODING.

The severest flooding for many years occurred in March. The chief result from a public health point was the great difficulty in dealing with the water at the sewerage pumping station, where several acres had to be used as an extemporary reservoir. This trouble again emphasises the need for an additional rising main down to the disposal plant.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)
DURING THE YEAR.

Disease			Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria	....	....	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	....	....	7	2	—
Erysipelas	....	....	2	—	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)			—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	....		3	2	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	....		—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	....		3	2	I
Acute Polioencephalitis	....		—	—	—
Dysentery	....	....	—	—	—
Acute Pneumonia	....		2	—	5
Measles	....	....	24	—	—
Whooping Cough	....		23	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	....		I	—	—
Malaria (Relapse)	....		—	—	—

The 3 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia recovered.

The death from Poliomyelitis was in a baby aged 6 weeks.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Cases Notified.	Treated.		Vision unimpaired.	Vision impaired.	Total Blindness.	Death.
1	1		1			

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age periods			NEW CASES				DEATHS			
			Resp.		Non-Resp.		Resp.		Non-Resp.	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	5	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
5	—	10	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
10	—	15	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	—	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	—	35	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
35	—	45	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
45	—	55	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
55	—	65	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
65 & upwards			1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Totals			6	3	1	1	3	4	1	2

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Attendances at the clinic increased though the births decreased by nearly a quarter.

Expectant mothers who attended	....	....	135
No. of children first attending Child Welfare Clinic:			
Under 1 year	....	....	306
Between 1 and 5 years	....	....	152
Visits paid by Health Visitors:			
To expectant mothers	....	....	4
To children under 1 year	....	....	966
To children between 1 and 5 years	....	....	1719
No. of persons at end of year who were receiving children for reward	....	....	3
No. of children so received at end of year	....	....	4

14 women were sent by the Ante-Natal clinic to The Royal Berks Hospital and 24 to the Radcliffe Infirmary.

Births in the Borough were 332 compared with 424 for the previous year.

Particular care was continued to be taken of premature infants (5½lbs. and under) of which there were 18, and on children with foster parents.

The register of Illegitimate children has been kept, a quarterly record being submitted to the M. and C.W. Committee by the Medical Officer of Health. There are approximately 60 such children being visited at present in the Borough.

The average daily attendance at the Victoria Park Nursery School was 80, and there are 114 on the waiting list. The capacity is for 80 children.

NEWBURY RURAL DISTRICT.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER.

In spite of the abnormally dry season no great shortage of water occurred. A few wells ran dry, and some water carrying was needed in outlying districts, notably in Wickham and Hoe Benham. The Chieveley supply is now taxed to capacity and before it can be extended the boring and pumping apparatus will have to be duplicated, but this village could readily be incorporated in the Boxford Regional Water Scheme.

This scheme is still under consideration by the Ministry. The case for pressing forward with it is strong; not only is there constant deficiency in the area every summer, but, with the exception of Stockcross, the whole population is dependent upon shallow wells, many of them defective. The supply to Stockcross is itself of doubtful purity.

SEWERAGE.

The final scheme for the sewerage of East Thatcham is now in progress.

MILK.

A good standard of cleanliness was maintained in all cowsheds and dairies, and routine tests for T.B. were negative.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There were 4 cases of Infantile Paralysis with 1 fatality. 2 cases recovered completely and 1 is more or less permanently affected. In cases of Infantile Paralysis disinfection is not regarded as necessary, but is done at the express wish of the occupiers of the premises where the case occurred.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)
DURING THE YEAR.

Disease			Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria	....	....	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	....	....	—	—	—
Erysipelas	....	....	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)			—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	....		—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	....		—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	....		2	2	I
Acute Polioencephalitis	....		2	2	—
Dysentery	....	....	—	—	—
Acute Pneumonia	....		2	—	3
Measles	....	....	78	I	—
Whooping Cough	....		28	—	I
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	....		—	—	—
Malaria (Relapse)	....		—	—	—

The death from Poliomyelitis occurred in a Male aged 3I years.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age periods			NEW CASES				DEATHS			
			Resp.		Non-Resp.		Resp.		Non-Resp.	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	10	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
10	—	15	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	20	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	—	25	1	5	1	—	—	—	—	—
25	—	35	3	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
35	—	45	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
45	—	55	2	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
55	—	65	4	2	—	—	—	2	—	—
65 & upwards			—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—
Totals			14	11	6	1	2	4	1	0

WALLINGFORD BOROUGH.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER.

The public supply has been adequate in quality and quantity. There have been no extensions to the water mains.

927 houses are connected to the public supply.

1 house is supplied by a deep bore-hole.

1 house is supplied by a shallow well.

There are no standpipes.

Of the above 929 houses, eleven were erected during the year and connected to the public supply.

SEWERAGE.

There have been no extensions to sewers. 11 new houses have been connected to the system. There are only 6 houses in the Borough which are not connected to the sewers.

During the abnormal flooding in March, 1947, storm water entered the sewers through waste gullies, etc., at houses in the neighbourhood of Lower Wharf, but this did not cause serious difficulties.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

There are 56 of the above premises in the Borough. During 1947, 57 inspections of premises were made and no defects discovered.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)
DURING THE YEAR.

Disease			Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria	....	....	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	....	....	5	4	—
Erysipelas	....	....	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)			—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	....		—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	....		—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	....		—	—	—
Acute Polioencephalitis	....		—	—	—
Dysentery	....	....	1	—	—
Acute Pneumonia	....		1	—	—
Measles	....	....	5	—	—
Whooping Cough	....		13	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	....		—	—	—
Malaria (Relapse)	....		—	—	—

The Borough was comparatively free from infectious disease.

There was a small outbreak of Whooping Cough.

The Dysentery case was of the Flexner type and the patient was employed at the Berks Mental Hospital at the time of the outbreak of Dysentery at that Institution.

No cases of Poliomyelitis occurred in the Borough.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age periods			NEW CASES				DEATHS			
			Resp.		Non-Resp.		Resp.		Non-Resp.	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	—	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	—	35	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35	—	45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45	—	55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55	—	65	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & upwards			—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals			0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0

WALLINGFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER.

A permanent water main was laid in York Road, West Hagbourne, to replace the temporary main.

The new pumping station at South Moreton was brought into use in January, 1948.

There were no other alterations or additions.

SEWERAGE.

A relief sewer was laid in Manor Road, Didcot.

The Greenmere sewer at Didcot was completed during the year.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

There are 40 of the above premises in the district.

During the year 40 inspections were made and 2 defects found.

DYSENTERY.

A fairly severe outbreak occurred at the Berks Mental Hospital, Cholsey, in October. Fresh cases continued to occur and the cause was traced to certain of the staff. Such outbreaks of Dysentery in Mental Hospitals are fairly common and once mental patients become chronic carriers, as they frequently do, it is very difficult completely to eradicate the disease. Dr. Baird published an account of the outbreak, and considered that great credit was due to the staff of the hospital for the fact that there were only three outside cases.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

**NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)
DURING THE YEAR.**

Disease	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria	4	4	1
Scarlet Fever	15	9	—
Erysipelas	1	1	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Acute Polioencephalitis	1	1	—
Dysentery	416	—	—
Acute Pneumonia	12	—	—
Measles	247	—	—
Whooping Cough	81	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	2	—
Malaria (Relapse)	—	—	—

Three of the cases of Diphtheria occurred in one family—and one of these proved fatal. As far as could be ascertained none of the cases, 2 children and 1 adult, had been immunised. The other Diphtheria was a Military case.

The incidence of Scarlet Fever slightly increased, and Measles and Whooping Cough showed a marked increase compared with 1946.

Only one case of Polioencephalitis occurred in the district and the patient completely recovered.

All the cases of Dysentery (Flexner) occurred among patients at Berks Mental Hospital, with the exception of 2 cases which involved the staff of the Hospital. The Dysentery was of Flexner type 103.

The two cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum were treated in hospital and both completely recovered.

Military cases: Scarlet Fever, 5; Diphtheria, 1.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age periods			NEW CASES				DEATHS			
			Resp.		Non-Resp.		Resp.		Non-Resp.	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	10	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	—	15	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	20	3	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
20	—	25	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
25	—	35	1	2	—	—	2	—	—	—
35	—	45	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
45	—	55	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
55	—	65	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
65 & upwards			1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals			7	7	3	1	5	1	0	0

WANTAGE URBAN DISTRICT.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER.

During the year 980 linear yards of 8in. cast iron main have been laid from the Council's pumping station, together with 2,086 linear yards of 6in. mains. This work comprised part of a scheme designed to improve the pressure at the higher levels of the district.

1,000 lin. yards of 3in. cast iron main have been laid on the Council's Ham Road Housing Site, where the erection of 76 houses is now proceeding.

The water supply throughout the Urban District and in the Parish of Grove (Wantage R.D.) has been satisfactory both in quality and quantity.

One bacteriological examination was made of the water prior to treatment and was satisfactory.

14 premises were connected to the mains during the year, making a total of 1,016 premises (4,570 persons) supplied from the public mains within the Urban District, and 171 premises (520 persons) in the Parish of Grove. Included in these totals are 24 premises (73 persons) supplied by standpipes.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Work is proceeding on the construction of a new sewage disposal works and extensions of the main sewer.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

There are 64 Factories and Workshops in the district.

During the year 83 inspections were made of these premises and 1 defect found and remedied.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)
DURING THE YEAR.

Disease	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	I	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Acute Polioencephalitis	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—
Acute Pneumonia	I	—	—
Measles	5	—	—
Whooping Cough	4	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—
Malaria (Relapse)	—	—	—

The incidence of Infectious Disease in this district was very low.

The case of Puerperal Pyrexia recovered.

There were no cases of Poliomyelitis.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Resp.		Non-Resp.		Resp.		Non-Resp.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 — 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 — 5	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5 — 10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 — 15	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
15 — 20	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
20 — 25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 — 35	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 — 45	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 — 55	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 — 65	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 & upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	3	1	1	2	1	1	0	0

WANTAGE RURAL DISTRICT.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER.

There have been no new sources of supply and no extensions of mains. No serious water shortage from public or private sources were reported during 1947.

62 out of 72 samples from public supplies were reported to be bacteriologically satisfactory. In the remaining 10 samples there was slight contamination and measures were taken to remedy this by stepping up chlorination.

There are 1,495 dwelling houses connected with the mains and approximately 7,710 people supplied by main water.

90 houses are supplied by standpipes (approximately 260 people).

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Work on Grove sewerage scheme was continued during the year.

SCAVENGING.

No change in this service.

SWIMMING BATHS.

The swimming pool at Harwell was closed to bathers during the war years and was used as a Static water supply for the N.F.S. The pool was not used during the year as certain repairs are necessary before it can be re-opened.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

All new Council Houses are sprayed with Zaldecide/D.D.T. before occupation. This obviates the necessity of treating furniture.

MILK.

94 visits to farms and dairies were made during the year and the premises were generally found to be satisfactory. 22 minor defects were found and remedied.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

No meat was condemned during the year but a certain amount of other foodstuffs were condemned, chiefly tins.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

There are 55 premises registered under the above Acts.

13 inspections were made during the year but no defects were found.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

**NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)
DURING THE YEAR.**

Disease	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	9	3	—
Erysipelas	1	1	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	4	3	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	2	2	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	3	3	—
Acute Polioencephalitis	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—
Acute Pneumonia	1	—	—
Measles	78	—	—
Whooping Cough	19	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	—
Malaria (Relapse)	1	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	1	—

The incidence of Scarlet Fever rose slightly compared with 1946.

The 3 cases of Poliomyelitis occurred in widely separated parishes and there was no apparent connection between the cases. One of the cases had a residual paralysis.

The Puerperal Pyrexia cases and the Cerebro Spinal Fever cases all recovered.

Measles and Whooping Cough notifications increased as compared with the previous year.

The case of Encephalitis Lethargica occurred in a German P.O.W.

The case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum occurred in Hospital and completely recovered.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age periods			NEW CASES				DEATHS			
			Resp.		Non-Resp.		Resp.		Non-Resp.	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	5	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
5	—	10	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
10	—	15	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
15	—	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	—	25	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	—	35	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
35	—	45	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
45	—	55	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55	—	65	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & upwards			—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals			6	6	2	2	2	1	0	0

